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Favorable views of Kamala Harris have risen this summer heading into the DNC, AP-NORC poll shows

By LINLEY SANDERS

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Vice President Kamala Harris is entering the Democratic National Convention with increased excitement from Democrats and a steady rise in her favorability ratings among Americans as a whole.

About half of U.S. adults — 48% — have a very or somewhat favorable view of Harris, according to a new poll from The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research. That is up from 39% at the beginning of the summer, before President Joe Biden's poor performance in his debate against former President Donald Trump ultimately led him to drop out of the presidential race.

That's not just an improvement for Harris but also from where President Joe Biden stood before he dropped out, when 38% said they had a favorable opinion of him.



Democratic presidential nominee Vice President Kamala Harris greets supporters at a campaign event, Sunday, Aug. 18, 2024, in Rochester, Pa.

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Associated Press



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Favorable views of Kamala Harris have risen this summer heading into the DNC, AP-NORC poll shows

Continued from Front

It's also somewhat better than the 41% of adults who say they have a favorable opinion of Trump.

The rise in favorability for Harris comes as more Americans overall have formed an opinion about her while the Harris and Trump campaigns rush to define her nascent candidacy. The share saying they don't know enough about her to have an opinion has halved, from 12% in June to 6% now.

The latest measurement is in line with how Americans viewed Harris in early 2021, when she and Biden first took office. It suggests renewed positivity toward Harris — the share of Americans who have a "very favorable" opinion of her has also increased over the same period — but she risks hitting a ceiling as she approaches her previous highest rating.

Potential strengths for Harris Since June, Harris' favorability has slightly risen among some groups that generally already favor the Democratic Party. She's seen slight increases in favorability among Democrats, independents, women and young adults under age 30. There's been no significant movement from Black adults or Hispanic adults — other constituencies Harris



Democratic presidential nominee Vice President Kamala Harris holds a bag of Doritos chips as Democratic vice presidential nominee Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz looks on at Sheetz convenience store during a campaign stop, Sunday, Aug. 18, 2024, in Coralopolis, Pa.

Associated Press

will likely need the support of in November.

Half of adults under 30 have a very or somewhat favorable view of Harris in the latest poll, up from 34% in June.

That comes as more young adults have formed an opinion about her, with the share of adults who say they don't know enough to say shrinking from about 2 in 10 to roughly 1 in 10. The number of young adults with an unfavorable view of her has not changed significantly.

Harris has relatively high levels of favorability among

Black adults, though it's been relatively steady over the last month. Around two-thirds of Black adults have a very or somewhat positive view of Harris. That includes around 4 in 10 who say their opinion of her is "very favorable." Black adults are more likely than Americans overall to have a favorable impression of Harris. About 6 in 10 nonwhite men and women have a positive view of Harris.

Johnita Johnson, a 45-year-old Black woman living in North Carolina, said she plans to vote for Harris in November, but she wants

the campaign to be honest and realistic about what it can promise. She has a problem with politicians, generally, who overpromise what they will be able to accomplish in office.

"If (Harris) was able to do exactly what she wants to do and what she says she would do, she would do an awesome job," Johnson said. "Well, we all know that is not going to go like that. She may get to do some of the things that she wanted to do. Will she do everything? I can't say that she will. And she can't promise me that."

Johnson noted that while Harris is a historic candidate because of her race and sex, it's not something that's factoring into her support.

"It wouldn't matter who it was. ... As long as they are good, and good to us, that's what matters to me," Johnson said. "Yes, of course, to a lot of people, it's exciting because she's Black and she's the first woman. But I'm not looking at it."

Possible weaknesses for Harris

To win in November, Harris' team will try to limit the extent to which Trump can run up his vote totals among white and male voters, groups that have leaned toward Republicans in recent elections. Currently, about half of men have a negative view of Harris. About 6 in 10 white men have an unfavorable view of her. White men without a college degree, a group that has traditionally made up Trump's strong base of support, are especially likely to say they have an unfavorable view.

Harris is seen more positively by white women, particularly those with a college degree. About 6 in 10 white women with a college degree view her favorably, compared to about 4 in 10 without one. Overall, white women are split on her: 49% have a favorable opinion and 46% have a negative one. □



A new Marine One awaits President Joe Biden at Chicago O'Hare International Airport in Chicago, Monday, August 19, 2024.

Associated Press

By AAMER MADHANI and ZEKE MILLER
Associated Press
CHICAGO (AP) — President Joe Biden on Monday took

his first flight aboard the modern VH-92A helicopter that serves as Marine One after years of delays to the program to replace the ag-

Biden takes inaugural flight in long-delayed new 'Marine One' helicopter

ing aircraft that carry the president and vice president.

Biden boarded the Sikorsky-made helicopter after arriving on Air Force One in Chicago where he is speaking Monday evening at the Democratic National Convention. The maiden presidential voyage carried him from O'Hare International Airport to the parking lot of Chicago's Soldier Field, often used as a landing zone for presidential travel.

It marked a crucial mile-

stone in a two-decade-long process to replace the Vietnam-era helicopters that have been in use carrying presidents, in some cases, since the 1970s.

An initial effort to purchase new helicopters was kicked off by the Bush administration in an effort to improve communications and mission capabilities in the post-September 11, 2001 environment, but it was scrapped by President Barack Obama after rampant cost overruns. The new program was start-

ed by the Obama administration, and the helicopter, branded the "Patriot" by its manufacturer, made its public debut during the Trump administration. But issues with the secure communications system on board — required so that the president can carry out classified conversations and make military decisions in an emergency — as well as a tendency to scorch the White House South Lawn led to years of delays to the program. □

17,000 AT&T workers in Southeast strike over contract negotiations

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (AP)

— More than 17,000 AT&T workers in nine states across the Southeast are on strike after accusing the company of unfair labor practices during contract negotiations this summer.

The Communications Workers of America — the union representing the striking employees — said workers walked off the job Friday in response to AT&T's failure to bargain in good faith. Workers have been attempting to reach a new contract since June. The labor organization said AT&T did not send representatives to the bargaining table who had authority to make decisions and that the company has reneged on agreements made in bargaining.



Drew Thigpen, left, and Robert Rogers join other AT&T workers from the CWA Local 3911 as they picket outside an AT&T warehouse on Cox Boulevard in Sheffield, Ala., on Monday, Aug. 19, 2024.

Associated Press

"Our union entered into negotiations in a good faith effort to reach a fair contract, but we have been met at the table by company representatives who

were unable to explain their own bargaining proposals and did not seem to have the actual bargaining authority required by the legal obligation to bar-

gain in good faith," Richard Honeycutt, vice president of CWA District 3 in the Southeast, said in a statement.

The strike involves AT&T technicians, customer service representatives and others who install, maintain and support AT&T's residential and business wireline telecommunications network. It involves workers in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee. The union said it filed an unfair labor practice complaint with the National Labor Relations Board.

AT&T denied the union's accusations.

"CWA's claims of unfair labor practices are not

grounded in fact. We have been engaged in substantive bargaining since Day One and are eager to reach an agreement that benefits our hard-working employees," the company said in emailed statement. AT&T said it reached three separate agreements this year covering more than 13,000 employees. The labor union on Monday also accused AT&T of "sending undertrained managers and contractors to perform highly technical work" during the strike. AT&T said it has "various business continuity measures in place to avoid disruptions to operations and will continue to provide our customers with the great service they expect." □

George Santos pleads guilty, acknowledging lies and blaming ambition for conning his way to Congress

By PHILIP MARCELO and
MICHAEL R. SISAK
Associated Press

CENTRAL ISLIP, N.Y. (AP) — George Santos, who spun lies about his life into an 11-month stint in Congress, pleaded guilty Monday to wire fraud and aggravated identity theft in a case that led to his expulsion from office and the admission that he'd allowed ambition to cloud his judgment. The former representative, 36, is likely to spend at least six years in prison and owes more than \$370,000 in restitution. His guilty plea in federal court on Long Island came weeks before the case was to go to trial. He is to remain free on bond until he is sentenced on Feb. 7.

"I betrayed the trust of my constituents and supporters. I deeply regret my conduct," the New York Republican said, his voice trembling as he entered the plea.

Santos — elected in 2022 after bandying falsehoods about his wealth and background, including a lie that his mother perished in the 9/11 attacks — told reporters outside court that his political ambitions had led him "to make decisions that were unethical."

"Pleading guilty is a step I



Former U.S. Rep. George Santos arrives at court in Central Islip, N.Y., Monday, Aug. 19, 2024.

Associated Press

never imagined I'd take, but it is a necessary one because it is the right thing to do," Santos said. "It's not only a recognition of my misrepresentation to others, but more profoundly, it is my own recognition of the lies I told myself over these past years."

U.S. Attorney Breon Peace said that in pleading guilty, Santos had told the truth "after years of telling lies."

"And that truth is he is a criminal," Peace said.

Santos was indicted on felony charges that he stole from political donors, used campaign contributions to pay for personal expenses, lied to Congress about his wealth and collected unemployment benefits while actually working.

Peace also said that in addition to the crimes Santos pleaded guilty to, he also

admitted to "a litany of other crimes for which the court will hold him accountable at sentencing."

Among them: admitting that he stole multiple people's credit card numbers and charged them for his campaign, that he tricked donors into giving money to a bogus nonprofit and used the cash to buy designer clothing, and that he fabricated his personal wealth in a fi-

nancial disclosure report he submitted to Congress.

Santos was expelled from the U.S. House after an ethics investigation found "overwhelming evidence" he had broken the law and exploited his public position for his own profit.

The case has been set for trial in early September. If that had happened, federal prosecutors said Monday that they were prepared to call some 40 witnesses, including members of Santos' campaign, employers and family members.

Santos was once touted as a rising political star after he flipped the suburban district that covers the affluent North Shore of Long Island and a slice of the New York City borough of Queens in 2022. But his life story began unraveling even before he was sworn into office. At the time, reports emerged that he had lied about having a career at top Wall Street firms and a college degree along with other questions surrounding his biography. New questions then emerged about his campaign funds.

He was first indicted on federal charges in May 2023, but refused to resign from office. □

Alabama says law cannot block people with certain felony convictions from voting in 2024 election

MONTGOMERY, Ala (AP)

— Alabama says a new state law expanding the list of felonies that cause a person to lose their right to vote won't be enforced until after the November election and asked a judge to dismiss a lawsuit over the effective date.

The Alabama attorney general office wrote in a Friday court filing that the new law, which has a Oct. 1 effective date, cannot be used to block people from voting in the upcoming election, because the Alabama Constitution prohibits new election laws from taking effect within six months of the general election.

"The Plaintiffs ask the court to order that a new law may not be enforced until after the November 5, 2024 General Election. But there is no need for such an order, because the law in question will not be en-

forced until after the election," lawyers for the state wrote in the filing responding to the lawsuit.

The Campaign Legal Center had filed the lawsuit last month in Montgomery Circuit Court seeking to clarify that the new law cannot block people from voting in the November election.

The center argued that there had been a lack of guidance from the state. Without clarity, they argued, it is setting up a confusing situation for voters and registrars to figure out who can and cannot vote in November.

HB100 adds that a conviction for attempting, soliciting or conspiracy to commit one of the more than 40 crimes that currently cause a person to lose their voting rights, will also be considered a disqualifying crime. The lawsuit was filed on behalf of two men, both con-



In this July 26, 2020, file photo, people gathered near the Alabama Capitol in Montgomery, Ala.

Associated Press

victed of attempted murder years ago, who would lose their right to vote under the expanded list.

The state wrote that the two men are "free to vote" in the upcoming election, but "after that election, however, they will be disqualified and will not be able to vote lawfully unless their voting rights are restored."

Alabama allows many peo-

ple convicted of disqualifying felonies to apply to have their voting rights restored if they have completed their sentences, parole and probation and paid all court fines and court-ordered restitution.

Some convictions, such as murder, do not allow a person to get their voting rights back.

Alabama Attorney General

Steve Marshall similarly sent an Aug. 7 memo to state district attorneys saying the state law should not be enforced until after the election. He wrote that it "will be vigorously enforced in all future elections."

The Alabama voting ban on people with felony convictions first dates to the Jim Crow-era 1901 Alabama Constitution, which was designed to keep Black people and poor white people from voting.

The Constitution said people convicted of felonies of "moral turpitude" shall lose their right to vote but did not define those crimes. After years of debate and litigation, Alabama lawmakers in 2017 approved a list of more than 40 offenses — including murder, robbery, assault, felony theft and drug trafficking — that would bar someone from being able to vote. □

DC councilmember known for pushing antisemitic conspiracy theories is arrested on bribery charge

By **MICHAEL KUNZELMAN** and **ALANNA DURKIN RICH-ER**

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — A District of Columbia councilmember known for promoting antisemitic conspiracy theories accepted over \$150,000 in bribes in exchange for pressuring D.C. employees to extend city contracts for violence intervention services, authorities alleged in court records unsealed Monday.

Trayon White Sr., a Democrat who ran an unsuccessful mayoral campaign in 2022, was arrested Sunday on a federal bribery charge and released from custody after a brief court appearance Monday.

His attorney declined to comment on the allegations against him.

White agreed in June to accept roughly \$156,000 in kickbacks and cash payments in exchange for pressuring government agency employees to extend two companies' con-



District of Columbia Councilman Trayon White, Sr., center, walks out of the federal courthouse after his initial appearance, Monday, Aug. 19, 2024 in Washington.

Associated Press

tracts worth over \$5 million, prosecutors said.

Authorities say they have secretly recorded conversations between White and an FBI informant who gave White \$35,000 in cash on four occasions between June and August. A photo included in court papers shows White stuffing what

the FBI says is an envelope filled with \$15,000 in cash in his jacket pocket.

The informant — who operated businesses that contracted with the D.C. government — also reported giving White gifts including travel to the Dominican Republic and Las Vegas along with paying

him bribes, the FBI said. The informant agreed to cooperate with the FBI as part of an agreement to plead guilty to fraud and bribery charges.

In one secretly recorded meeting detailed in court papers, authorities say the informant gave White \$5,000 in cash and told the

councilmember that the money was in exchange for reaching out to two government employees. White responded: "I am on top of all of that. ... Once you and I lock eyes and gets to an understanding, I gets to work. I can start making some (expletive) happen." The informant told authorities that White, 40, also accepted a \$20,000 bribe payment to help resolve a contract dispute for one of the companies by pressuring high-level district officials, the affidavit alleges, White's chief of staff and spokesperson didn't immediately respond to emails seeking comment.

White put his hand to his heart as he entered the courtroom and acknowledged his supporters who attended the hearing. One supporter held her hand to her mouth and sobbed from the gallery. The magistrate judge warned White he could be jailed before trial if he violates any conditions of his release. □

Blinken says Israel OKs a plan to break the cease-fire impasse and urges Hamas to do the same

By **MATTHEW LEE**

AP Diplomatic Writer

TEL AVIV, Israel (AP) — U.S.

Secretary of State Antony Blinken said Monday that Israel has accepted a proposal to bridge differences holding up a cease-fire and hostage release in Gaza, and he called on Hamas to do the same, without saying whether concerns cited by the militant group had been addressed.

The high-stakes negotiations have gained urgency in recent days as diplomats hope an agreement will deter Iran and Lebanon's Hezbollah from avenging the targeted killings of two top militants that were blamed on Israel. The escalating tensions have raised fears of an even more destructive regional war.

Blinken spoke after holding a 2 1/2 hour meeting with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu earlier in the day, and will travel to Egypt and Qatar for further negotiations. The three mediators have spent months trying to end the war in Gaza, with the talks repeatedly stalling. "In a very constructive meeting with Prime Minister Netanyahu today, he confirmed to me that Israel supports the bridging proposal," Blinken told reporters, without saying what the proposal en-



U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken, left, meets with Israel's President Isaac Herzog, in Tel Aviv, Israel, Monday, Aug. 19, 2024.

Associated Press

tails. "The next important step is for Hamas to say 'yes.'" He added, however, that even if Hamas accepts the proposal, negotiators will spend the coming days working on "clear understandings on implementing the agreement." He said there are still "complex issues" requiring "hard decisions by the leaders," without offering specifics. Hamas has said it is losing faith in the U.S. as a mediator, accusing American negotiators of siding with Israel

as it makes new demands that the militant group rejects. Blinken did not say whether the proposal addressed Israel's demand for control over two strategic corridors inside Gaza which Hamas has said is a non-starter or other issues that have long bedeviled the negotiations.

Netanyahu said that he had a "good and important meeting" with Blinken and appreciated the "understanding that the United States has shown to our vi-

tal security interests, along with our shared efforts to release our hostages." He added that efforts are being made to release the maximum number of hostages in the first stage of a the cease-fire deal. Blinken's ninth mission to the Middle East since the conflict began came days after mediators, including the United States, expressed renewed optimism that a deal was near. But Hamas has expressed deep dissatisfaction with the latest pro-

posal, and Israel has said there were points on which it was unwilling to compromise. Earlier on Monday, Blinken said it was a "decisive moment," and "maybe the last" opportunity to free the hostages and secure a cease-fire.

"It's also time to make sure that no one takes any steps that could derail this process," he said in a veiled reference to Iran. "And so we're working to make sure that there is no escalation, that there are no provocations, that there are no actions that in any way move us away from getting this deal over the line, or for that matter, escalating the conflict to other places and to greater intensity."

Mediators will meet again this week to try to cement a cease-fire. Blinken will travel Tuesday to Egypt and Qatar, where Hamas maintains a political office. The war began on Oct. 7 when thousands of Hamas-led militants stormed into Israel, killing around 1,200 people, mostly civilians, and abducting around 250 others. Of those, about 110 are still believed to be in Gaza, though Israeli authorities say around a third are dead. More than 100 hostages were released in November during a week-long cease-fire. □

Heavy rains hit Pakistan's south as this monsoon's death toll rises to 209

By **MUNIR AHMED**

Associated Press

ISLAMABAD (AP) — Flash

floods triggered by monsoon rains swept through streets in southern Pakistan and blocked a key highway in the north, officials said Monday, as the death toll from rain-related incidents rose to 209 since July 1.

Fourteen people died across Punjab province in the past 24 hours, said Irfan Ali, an official at the provincial disaster management authority. Most of the other deaths have occurred in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and

Sindh provinces.

Pakistan's annual monsoon season runs from July through September. Scientists and weather forecasters have blamed climate change for heavier rains in recent years. In 2022, climate-induced downpours inundated one-third of the country, killing 1,739 people and causing \$30 billion in damage.

Zaheer Ahmed Babar, a senior official with the Pakistan Meteorological Department, said the latest spell of heavy rains will continue this week in parts of the country. The downpour

in southern Pakistan has flooded streets in Sukkur district of Sindh province.

Authorities said efforts were underway to clear the key Karakorum highway in the north of landslides. Flash floods have also damaged some bridges in the north, disrupting traffic.

The government advised tourists to avoid affected areas.

More than 2,200 homes have been damaged across Pakistan since July 1, when the monsoon rains began, the National Disaster Management Authority said.



Villagers waded through flood area caused by heavy monsoon rains near Sohbat Pur, an area of Pakistan's southwestern Baluchistan province, Monday, Aug. 19, 2024.

Associated Press

Neighboring Afghanistan also has had rains and flood-related damage since May, with more than 80 people killed. On Sun-

day, three people died when their vehicle was washed away by floods in Ghazni, according to provincial police. □

Civilians flee Pokrovsk as Russia's army bears down on the key eastern Ukraine city

By ALEX BABENKO

Associated Press

POKROVSK, Ukraine (AP) —

Civilians with small children in their arms and lugging heavy suitcases fled Monday from Ukraine's eastern city of Pokrovsk, where the Russian army was bearing down fast despite a lightning Ukrainian incursion into Russia's Kursk region.

Local authorities said Russian forces were advancing so quickly that families were under orders to leave the city and other nearby towns and villages starting Tuesday. Around 53,000 people still live in Pokrovsk, officials said, and some of them decided to get out immediately.

People of all ages boarded trains and buses with the belongings they could carry. Some wept as they waited to depart. Soldiers helped the elderly with their bags, and volunteers helped people with disabilities. Rail workers wore bulletproof vests.

Natalya Ivaniuk said the noise of explosions from Russian bombardments filled the air while she and her daughters, age 7 and 9, fled their home in the nearby village of Myrno-



A woman sits in a bus during evacuation in Pokrovsk, Donetsk region, Ukraine, Monday, August 19, 2024.

Associated Press

hrad, which is less than 10 kilometers (6 miles) from the front line.

"It was terrifyingly scary," she told The Associated Press. "We barely got out." Pokrovsk is one of Ukraine's main defensive strongholds and a key logistics hub in the Donetsk region. Its capture would compromise Ukraine's defensive abilities and supply routes and

would bring Russia closer to its stated aim of capturing the entire Donetsk region.

One of Kyiv's attempts to ease the pressure on its eastern front was the unexpected Aug. 6 incursion into Russia's Kursk region, which among other goals aimed to unnerve the Kremlin and compel it to split its military resources.

Ukrainian President Volody-

myr Zelenskyy said Sunday the daring incursion is trying to create a buffer zone that might prevent further attacks by Moscow across the border, especially with long-range artillery, missiles and glide bombs.

In a social media statement, Zelenskyy said Monday evening that Ukraine currently controlled 1,250 square kilometers (about

480 square miles) and 92 settlements inside the Kursk region.

"The Russian border area opposite our Sumy region has been mostly cleared of Russian military presence," he said.

"Now, our warriors' real success speaks for itself. Our defensive actions across the border, as well as Putin's inability to defend his territory, are telling. Our proactive defense is the most effective counter to Russian terror, causing significant difficulties for the aggressor."

Russia's relentless six-month slog across Ukraine's Donetsk region following the capture of Avdiivka has cost it heavily in troops and armor. However, the onslaught has gradually paid dividends as Ukrainian defenders have no choice but to pull back from positions blown to pieces by Russian artillery, missiles and bombs.

"There is a lot of destruction around us, so it becomes more and more scary to stay," said Tetiana Myronenko, 57, who came from Selydove just 5 kilometers (3 miles) from the front line. □

U.N. says a record number of aid workers were killed in 2023 and this year may be even higher

By EDITH M. LEDERER and GEIR MOULSON

undefined

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — A

record number of aid workers were killed in conflicts around the world last year more than half after the



A World Food Programme (WFP) truck backs up to load food items from a recently landed UN helicopter, in Yida camp, South Sudan Sept. 14, 2012.

Associated Press

Israel-Hamas war started on Oct. 7 and this year may become even deadlier, the United Nations said Monday.

The 280 aid workers from 33 countries killed in 2023 was more than double the previous year's figure of 118, the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs known as OCHA said in a report on World Humanitarian Day.

U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres tweeted that honoring the humanitarians killed in the deadliest year on record is not enough.

"In Sudan & many other places, aid workers are attacked, killed, injured &

abducted. We demand an end to impunity so that perpetrators face justice," the U.N. chief said.

OCHA said this year "may be on track for an even deadlier outcome," with 172 aid workers killed as of Aug. 7, according to a provisional account from the Aid Worker Security Database. More than 280 aid workers have been killed in the war in Gaza, now in its 11th month, mainly in airstrikes. The majority of them are Palestinians who worked for the U.N. agency helping Palestinian refugees known as UNRWA, according to OCHA. It said that "extreme levels of violence in Sudan and South

Sudan "also have contributed to the death toll both this year and last.

The U.N.'s acting humanitarian chief, Joyce Msuya, said in a statement that "the normalization of violence against aid workers and the lack of accountability are unacceptable, unconscionable and enormously harmful for aid operations everywhere."

In a letter to the 193 U.N. member nations, 413 humanitarian organizations around the world said: "The brutal hostilities we are seeing in multiple conflicts around the world have exposed a terrible truth: We are living in an era of impunity." □

Another Treasure of Aruba's Beaches: Sea Glass!

NOORD - It is hard to imagine this happening today, but years ago people dumped all kinds of refuse straight into the ocean, including old cars, and their household garbage, which of course included lots of glass. Over the next 30 years the pounding waves cleaned the beach, by breaking down everything but glass and pottery. The pounding waves washed the trash up and down, back and forth. Tons of polished, broken glass pieces were created by the pounding surf. These smoothened, colored glass particles then settled along the sea shore in millions, and that is why you can

find these beautiful and colorful pieces on the north shore beaches of Aruba.

Especially on the strip on white sand between the famous Natural Bridge" and the huge red anchor close to "Grapefield" beach you will be able to find your own pieces of sea glass. The sea glass that was created is the product of a very long and interesting process. It can take anywhere from 10 to 30 years to make sea glass. The name for any piece of glass that finds its way to the ocean and tumbles around in the water long enough is "Sea glass.

The colorful pieces of glass

are being used for decoration, handcrafts and jewelry!

Once glass makes its way into the ocean, the glass is broken up into shards and is tumbled around in the water, where sand and other rocks act like sandpaper to smooth out its rough edges. Sometimes as the sea glass is passed through fire, it becomes fire glass, the rarest of sea glass with certain inclusions, just like precious gems.

For years, the water beat against the different kinds of trash being dumped. Glass, household appliances and even motor parts were discarded on the beach. The waves and weather conditions wore down the overwhelming amount of garbage in the water, creating millions of beautiful smooth rocks.

It's hard to believe the short-sighted mistakes we were making that could have potentially ruined these beautiful beaches. But thanks to natural pro-



cesses, the ocean transformed the trash into the sea glass. Each colored gem on the beach has its own story.

The ruby red glass stones are typically from old car tail-lights.

Then, the sapphire rocks are the remnants of broken apothecary bottles. The most common and the easiest to find are the brown (Amstel & Polar beer), green (Heineken & Balashi beer) and clear glass which are the soft much loved "soft drink" bottles.

If you like to see the sea glass for yourself, and be in awe of the power of nature, rent a car or jeep and go explore our deserted

beaches on the north side of the island. Make it a fun family day!

Even if we didn't mean to pollute the Beaches how we did, it is inspiring to see just how the earth can correct our mistakes.

Funny, how trash can change into treasures!

Everybody knows that you are not allowed to take local shells home, but the people working at the airport have no problem you taking sea glass home. A few of those pieces make great souvenirs. You can place them in a wine glass or large bottle for decoration and every time you look at it a smile will light up your face thinking back of your unforgettable Aruba vacation! ☐



Birds of Aruba



ORANJESTAD — On May 11th, 2010, the **Aruba Birdlife Conservation** was founded with the aim of protecting the biodiversity in general and birds in and around Aruba in particular.

Among other things, the foundation will focus on increasing the survival chances of species of wild birds by promoting their preservation and conservation. The foundation publishes the most beautiful

pictures of local birds on their social media that show us the beauty of Aruba's birds and nature in general. Aruba Today gives you a little peek with the following pictures and descriptions from the foundation's Facebook page.

The Great Egret

Serenity in Aruba's National Park, a Great Egret flying in peace. When it is peaceful and quite, beautiful things start happening in nature.



Canadian in the house

The breeding season is over and it's getting pretty cold in North America. Shore birds have started moving southwards as early as July. This wetland beauty wants to keep its toes warm. Our Canadian friends know exactly where they can do so best. A Greater Yellowlegs rediscovering Aruba's Bubali Wetlands.

Cabochon



In its living form of so much more value than any gemstone. Aruba's smallest and most master of flight. A top pollinator. A hovering Blenchi inspecting the human who just entered his territory.

English: Blue-tailed Emerald (male)
Dutch: Blauwstaartsmaragdkolibrie (mannelijke).

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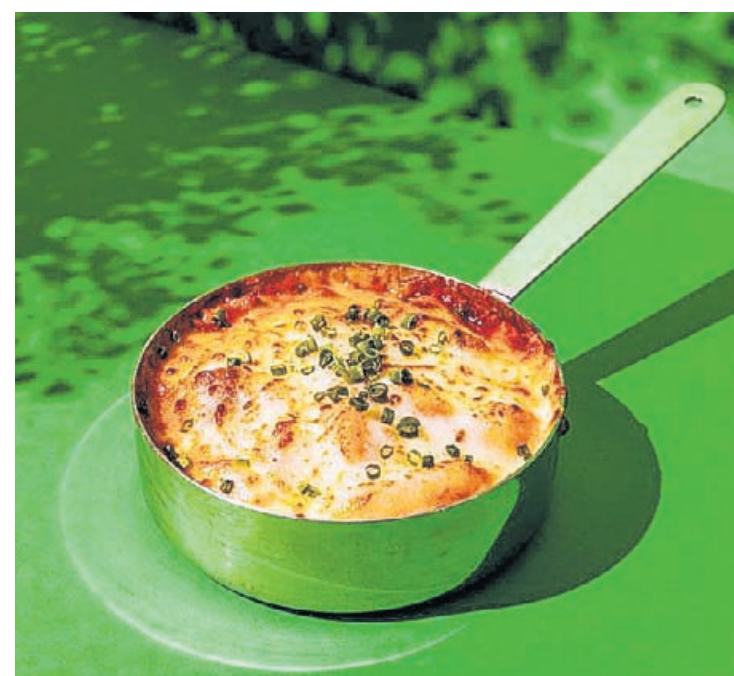
The Diversity of Aruba's Restaurant Market: Po-Ke Ono Leads the Asian Culinary Scene!

Aruba's culinary landscape is a vibrant reflection of the island's rich cultural diversity and global influences. Among the stand-out establishments, Po-Ke Ono shines as a leader in culinary innovation. Ranked as the number one Asian restaurant in Aruba for over two consecutive years, Po-Ke Ono has captured the hearts of both locals and tourists with its unique fusion of Hawaiian and Asian flavors.

Unlike traditional Asian restaurants, Po-Ke Ono is the creative vision of Executive Chef Urvin Croes, who draws inspiration from his



global travels. The result is a diverse menu that sets Po-Ke Ono apart from any other dining experience, both locally and internationally.



Po-Ke Ono began its journey with humble beginnings shortly before COVID-19, starting with just a steamer and a rice cooker. Now, nearly five years later, the restaurant operates from two fully developed kitchens, a testament to its growing popularity. The secret to its success lies in its commitment to innovation and high-quality service. With a rotating selection of daily specials and new dishes tailored for the local market on the horizon, Po-Ke Ono continues to impress.

By year's end, Po-Ke Ono will reintroduce its popular Sunday brunch and offer special group menus, making it an ideal spot for family and friends to gather. Whether you visit Market Place in Oranjestad or Azure Residences at Eagle Beach, Po-Ke Ono remains a top destination on Aruba's culinary map, embodying the importance of creativity and diversity in the island's restaurant market. □

Experience Aruban culture with this exciting theme night featuring a Carnival show, mixology bar, local artists and more. You can sample Aruban cuisine, including delicious BBQ options with a tropical twist. A local brass band will be performing, and you can pose with elaborately dressed Carnival dancers for a memorable photo op as well, so don't miss it.

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Dining in? Try making a local favorite How to make "funchi hasa"

(Oranjestad)—A night in can be just as fun as a night out on the town, especially if you got the right snacks to munch on. One of the most famous Aruban snacks or appetizers is "funchi hasa" (fried polenta sticks). A super easy meal that adults and children will both enjoy. Here's how to make it!

Before we start, get to know

the basics

So what is funchi hasa? Funchi, or Aruban polenta, is a popular side dish for local dishes, like soups, stews and fried fish. Made from a corn flour, water and butter mixture, this appetizer is traditionally eaten alongside a warm meal. However, locals also like to fry sticks of funchi for a quick and filling snack.

Ingredients (measured by heart)

1. Polenta flour*
2. Water
3. Butter
4. Salt to taste

Directions

Bring water to a boil in a medium-sized sauce pan. Add in some salt and butter to taste in the boiling water and let this dissolve and melt. Then, gradually add the flour while stirring with a wooden spoon. The mixture will start to begin to harden pretty fast, so be careful not to add too much. At this phase of cooking, you want a goopy thick mixture, but thin enough so you can continue to stir to get all the lumps out.



After reaching a semi-firm, yet flexible texture, grab a baking pan or any large, deep plate, and pour the mixture in. Be sure that this plate is wet or greased so that the mixture does not stick to the bottom. Let this cool completely while it firms up for the last time. Once it's cooled you can enjoy it as is, topped with some butter or shredded cheese. Or, you can take it to another level of deliciousness.

When your funchi is firm enough, cut it into strips

(size is up to you). Heat up some oil in a pan and fry those babies up! After frying, you can top it with some cheese or enjoy it with your favorite dipping sauce.

Note: We recommend the FUNCHI FRESKU polenta flour brand that is sold in all supermarkets on the island. You can also use yellow corn flour from the brand PAN.

Photo credit of fried funchi sticks: Jacqueline Felida on Pinterest.



Aruba to me

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Last but not least: check out our website, Instagram and Facebook page! Thank you for supporting our free newspaper, we strive to make you a happy reader every day again.

For today we received a lovely message from Brian and Susan Holt from Phoenix, Arizona, USA.

They wrote to us saying: "Aruba to us is pure bliss & our 2nd home. Celebrating One Happy Island at Aruba's I Do Vow Renewal Ceremony 2024."

Thank you for sending us this wonderful message sharing what Aruba means to you with us and our readers! □

Visit the island's popular cave sites!



(Oranjestad)—Among the endless sea of dark brown sand and cacti, there are two caves hidden in the outskirts of San Nicolas, in the north-eastern area of the island. These caves, The Quadirikiri cave and The Fontein Cave are open to visitors of the Arikok National Park, so if you ever decide to take an “off-road” tour in the park, be sure to visit these prehistoric caves...and be sure to bring a flashlight!

Quadirikiri Cave

Known for its two chambers accompanied by a skylight, the Quadirikiri Cave is the most popular cave among locals and tourists, as it is easy to walk through and provides great lighting for pictures.

As with all prehistoric or ancient sites, there is always a folk legend that adds to the lore and mystery of the site. The Quadirikiri cave is no different. The most well-known legend behind the cave could be considered as Aruba's first love story, as it tells the tale of the undying love between the chief's daughter and her beloved. As legend would have it, the chief disapproved of his daughter's choice of lover, as he thought him unworthy. Stubborn and filled with anger, the daughter refused to turn away her beloved.

So, the chief decided to lock her up in the Quadirikiri

Cave, in hopes that she would soon calm down and turn away her lover. Her beloved, in turn, was locked away in the Tunnel of Love (Now known as the Huliba Cave).

Through the pathways underneath the Tunnel of Love running up to the Quadirikiri cave, the two love birds found each other, and refused to let each other go. Because of their stubbornness, they both died in the Quadirikiri Cave, their ascending spirits burning two holes in the ceiling of the cave. This is why the cave has two holes through which sunlight passes through to illuminate the chamber.

Though there have been discoveries of Amerindian drawing on the wall, these have mostly been ruined by vandalism. However, the Fontein Cave further up north, provides a better glimpse in prehistoric Amerindian paintings.

Fontein Cave

Longer than the Quadirikiri Cave, the Fontein Cave contains pathways that stretch to the limestone walls further down. Here is also where prehistoric drawings can be seen. Though this cave does not have its own legend, this was speculated to have been occupied—or at least used by prehistoric Arawak settlers on the island for rituals and other spiritual

ceremonies.

The Huliba Cave/ Tunnel of Love

The Huliba Cave, formerly known as the Tunnel of Love, was once open to the public, and was the biggest and most accessible of all three caves. This cave had five chambers, including one that is heart-shaped. This cave had narrow stairs that led to long pathways deep into the cave, with a staircase leading to the exit on the other side. In one of the chambers, there used to be the carving of the Virgin Mary, put there for the protection of the cave.

However, the Huliba Cave has been permanently closed for a few years now, as a way to preserve the bat population that lives in the cave. These Long Tongue Fruit Bats and Insect Eater Bats are very important to the ecosystem of the island. Though this cave is no longer accessible to the public, it surely is interesting to learn more about the history of these caves and the Awarak tribes that resided or utilized them.

Do note that these caves are very dark, humid, hot, and are inhabited by bats. Do wear comfortable clothing and shoes, as the pathways in these caves may be rough and bumpy, and don't forget to bring a flashlight!☐

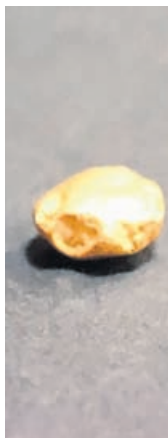
Note to visitors:

Due to heavy rainfall in the past few days, Arikok National Park has informed that they have closed the Quadirikiri Cave until further notice for the safety of visitors.

Fontein remains open from 9am to 4pm.



In celebration of 200 years of the Aruban gold rush: Get to know the history of the gold industry on Aruba



(Oranjestad)—This year we celebrate a few milestone anniversaries on Aruba, one of them being the 200th anniversary of when gold was first discovered on the island. We have talked about the Bushiribana Gold Mill Ruin before and its brief history during the gold industry on Aruba, but get to know a little more about the history of the “Aruban Gold Rush.”

The first hint of gold on Aruba actually dates back to 1725, when rumors about gold being found in dug up treasure chests of the Spanish colonial era prompted the first official exploration for gold on the island, commissioned by the Dutch West India Company. Under the leadership of Mr. Paulus Printz, a three-year search was conducted on Aruba, to no avail. Though they found some specks of gold, it was not enough to motivate a further search, and the assignment was discontinued by Printz himself. It wasn't until 100 years later, in 1824, when a young farmer boy named Willem Rasmijn found a lump of gold while out herding his father's sheep in the area of Rooi Fluit on the north coast. His father took it to a local merchant who then sold the lump for \$70. Unbeknownst to the boy and his father, they quite literally struck gold, and as word got out, a gold fever spread among the locals who started searching for more gold.

When the colonial governor in Curacao, Governor Cantz'laar, heard about the news, he sent his adjutant, Capitan van Raders, to start harvesting gold. This was in July 1824. In August of that same year, the governor followed suit to the island, accompanied by high-ranking military officials. When citizens started swarming the area in search for gold, The Netherlands sent more troops to safe guard the gold.

Prominent places where gold was found was in Daimari, Wacobana, Arikok, Rooi Fluit, Hadicouradi and later West punt, where gold ore was found. Because of a lack in advanced technology and materials to harvest the gold, the process took a more primitive approach: Clay rocks containing traces of gold were left to dry in the sun. Then, workers would start chipping the clay away on a large canvas to catch the gold particles that were left behind after the wind blew away the dust from the clay.

In the harvest period of 1824-1825, there was a total of 71,000 kilos collected through commissioned harvesting. Locals themselves reportedly found about 25 pounds worth of gold in the nearby rivers. The following years after that first big harvest, commission work fell off, and in 1828, the director of the goldmines, Johan Gravenhorst, decided to halt harvesting.

Almost 40 years later, the London-based Aruba Island Gold Mining Company Ltd. was granted concession. The firm built their gold mines on Bushiribana, and in the port of Oranjestad a long road that connected the gold mill to the port. The ores themselves came from Sero Plat en Sero Cristal.

By this point, workers were still using primitive methods to harvest the ores. For example, when someone had to go into the mines, there were no stairs or lifts; the person had to be brought down in a big bucket, with two or more workers holding the bucket by a thick rope above ground. Aruba Island Gold Mining Company Ltd. reportedly operated until 1899, and right after the Aruba Gold Concession Ltd. was established, coincidentally also based in London. This time, the gold mill in Balashi was built, and more mines were dug up all around the island. The gold ores that were found were transported via track engine, locally called the “trekinchi”. Despite being more equipped for the job, the Aruba Gold Concession Ltd. could not produce any real profit, and so the concession was terminated just eight years later, in 1908.

A local firm, the “Aruba Goud Maatschappij” (Aruba Gold Company) took over the concession, along with all the materials and equipment. In the beginning, the company saw good profit, and for a while, the island's economy depended primarily on the mining and harvesting of gold. But just like its predecessors, the streak of luck for the Aruba Gold Company came to an end when WWI broke out.

The main reason why production stopped this time was reportedly because of a lack in dynamite for extracting the ores from the mines, as well as a lack in raw materials like German cyanide for the refining process. By the time the war ended, the equipment that was left at Balashi were too old to use again. After the war, gold production on the Aruba was left to a standstill.

According to an issue in Aruba Esso News paper in 1953, Henny Eman wanted to start up digging again, this time using independent miners. He argued that there was proof of more gold to be discovered. Plus, hiring independent miners would boost the island's employment rate.

When it was proven that gold was in fact still present, the executive board on the island promised to fund the project only if the gold dug up proved to be valuable. However, nothing else was reported after this, so it could be concluded that there was no real profitable market on the island anymore.

The ruins of the Bushiribana and Balashi Gold Mills are still standing, and open for the public to visit. These structures offer a glance into the past, to a time where Aruba experienced one of its first wave of industrialization. Today, these structures are persevered as historical monuments. □

Source:

1. “De Kolibrie op de Rots (en meer over the geschiedenis van Aruba)” by Evert Bongers.
2. Aruba Esso News, 1953 issue.

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Time to come
- 7 Alpine goat
- 11 "Be right with you"
- 12 Zap in a microwave
- 13 Like most people
- 15 Eat away
- 16 Binary digit
- 18 "Edward Scissor-hands" star
- 21 Clamors
- 22 Hepburn of "Charade"
- 24 Suitable
- 25 Nile serpent
- 26 Rage
- 27 Wall paintings
- 29 Splinter group
- 30 Arsonist, informally
- 31 Robe feature
- 32 Make into law
- 34 Thrown off balance
- 40 Swaying dance
- 41 Show up
- 42 Small bills
- 43 Director Rob

DOWN

- 1 Fragrant tree
- 2 Numerical prefix
- 3 Luggage ID
- 4 Theater workers
- 5 Fashionably dated
- 6 Cave sound
- 7 Wanting
- 8 Future flower
- 9 — out (scrape by)
- 10 Struck out
- 14 Make sense
- 16 Close, as a jacket
- 17 Contest form
- 19 Uses a jimmy
- 20 Bar in a cage
- 21 Block
- 22 Braying beast
- 23 So far
- 25 On the way
- 28 Stadiums
- 29 Zen enlightenment
- 31 Point count
- 33 Miles off
- 34 Owl's question
- 35 Try for office
- 36 Spanish cheer
- 37 Badge material
- 38 Time to prepare
- 39 German article

A	L	O	H	A		S	E	P	A	L
P	I	N	E	S		T	W	I	C	E
E	L	E	C	T		R	E	T	R	O
			T	E	T	E		H	E	N
M	E	M	O	R	I	A	L			
O	M	A	R		S	K	E	T	C	H
M	I	N	I	S		S	C	A	L	I
S	T	E	N	C	H		T	R	O	D
			G	R	A	D	U	A	T	E
T	U	B		O	D	O	R			
A	T	A	L	L		D	I	C	E	D
B	A	S	I	L		G	N	O	M	E
S	H	E	D	S		E	G	G	O	N

Yesterday's answer

1	2	3	4	5	6		7	8	9	10
11							12			
13							14			
			15							
	16	17					18		19	20
21							22			23
24				25					26	
27				28					29	
	30						31			
			32				33			
34	35	36							37	38
40							41			
42							43			

5-28

AXYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

5-28

CRYPTOQUOTE

K'M LZDYJL LJULJD DYJ LKEHE

DYZD MKMB'D ISLH SND DYZB

DYJ FYZBFJE K MKMB'D DZHI

ZD ZPP. — EKG SBJ RKPJE

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: IT IS FOR US THE LIVING ... TO BE DEDICATED TO THE UNFINISHED WORK WHICH THEY WHO FOUGHT HERE HAVE SO NOBLY ADVANCED. — ABRAHAM LINCOLN

Cruise ship Schedule: August 6 - 27 2024

			ARR	DEPT	BERTH	
TUE	06	ADVENTURE OF THE SEAS	08.00	20.00	B	1
		CARNIVAL HORIZON	09.00	22.00	C	1
		CARNIVAL MARDI GRAS	13.00	23.00	I	1
WED	07	RHAPSODY OF THE SEAS	09.00	21.00	C	1
TUE	13	CELEBRITY BEYOND	08.00	21.00	B	1
		CARNIVAL CELEBRATION	08.00	22.00	C	1
		CARNIVAL VISTA	13.00	23.00	I	1
THU	14	ENCHANTED PRINCESS	08.00	18.00	C	1
WED	20	CARNIVAL HORIZON	09.00	22.00	C	1
WED	27	CELEBRITY BEYOND	08.00	21.00	C	1

Helpful tips for your stay on Aruba

(Oranjestad)—When traveling to another country, especially for the first time, it is always better to be over-prepared than under-prepared. That is why we have a list of basicbut important information that we think may come in handy to Aruba's visitors.

lets used on the island: type A with two flat prongs; type B with two flat and one grounding prong, and on occasion, type F with two round prong and two earth clips on the side. However, Type A is most commonly found in homes and establishments.

Electrical power



Aruba generally operates on 110V to 127V supply voltage and 60Hz. There are also three types of out-

Drinking water



The water that flows through the sinks of every house, hotels and other establishments is distilled and perfectly safe to drink. Aruba's drinking water exceeds WHO's international standards for water quality, so there is no need to buy bottled water from the store.

Supermarket hours



Supermarket hours may vary depending on where you are staying on the island. Generally though, most supermarkets are open from 8am to 9 or 10pm, Monday through Saturday. On Sundays, supermarkets generally close earlier; mostly around 2pm.

Safety



Since February 2024, Aruba has been categorized as the safest country in the Caribbean by The Telegraph, and many tourist that visit have often told us how they feel safe to explore the island or walk around at night. However, rare incidents do occurs, so keep yourself and your belongings safe.

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24/7

Stonehenge's 'altar stone' originally came from Scotland and not Wales, new research shows

By CHRISTINA LARSON

AP Science Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The ancient ritual meaning of Stonehenge is still a mystery, but researchers are one step closer to understanding how the famous stone circle was created. The unique stone lying flat at the center of the monument was brought to the site in southern England from near the tip of north-east Scotland, researchers reported Wednesday in the journal Nature. It's not clear whether the 16-foot (5-meter) stone was carried by boat or across land a journey of more than 460 miles (740 kilometers).

"It's a surprise that it's come from so far away," said University of Exeter archaeologist Susan Greaney, who was not involved in the study.

For more than a hundred years, scientists believed

that Stonehenge's central sandstone slab long called the "altar stone" came from much closer Wales. But a study last year by some of the same researchers showed that the stone didn't match the geology of Wales' sandstone formations. The actual source of the stone remained unknown until now.

For the study, the team was not permitted to chip away rocks at the site, but instead analyzed minerals in bits of rock that had been collected in previous digs, some dating back to the 1840s. □

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Too many people, not enough management: A look at the chaos of 'overtourism' in the summer of 2024

By LAURIE KELLMAN

Associated Press

SINTRA, Portugal (AP) — The doorbell to Martinho de Almada Pimentel's house is hard to find, and he likes it that way. It's a long rope that, when pulled, rings a literal bell on the roof that lets him know someone is outside the mountainside mansion that his great-grandfather built in 1914 as a monument to privacy. There's precious little of that for Pimentel during this summer of "overtourism." Travelers idling in standstill traffic outside the sun-washed walls of Casa do Cipreste in Cintra sometimes spot the bell and pull the string "because it's funny," he says.

With the windows open, he can smell the car exhaust and hear the "tuk-tuk" of outsized scooters named for the sound they make. And he can sense the frustration of 5,000 visitors a day who are forced to queue around the house on the crawl up single-lane switchbacks to Pena Palace, the onetime retreat of King Ferdinand II.

"Now I'm more isolated than during COVID," the soft-spoken Pimentel, who lives alone, said during an interview this month on the veranda. "Now I try to (not) go out. What I feel is: angry."

This is a story of what it means to be visited in 2024, the first year in which global tourism is expected to set records since the coronavirus pandemic brought much of life on Earth to a halt. Wandering is surging, rather than leveling off, driven by lingering revenge travel, digital nomad campaigns and so-called golden visas blamed in part for skyrocketing housing prices.

Cue the violins, you might grouse, for people like Pimentel who are well-off enough to live in places



Tourists queue to visit the interior of the 19th century Pena Palace in Sintra, Portugal, Wednesday, Aug. 14, 2024.

Associated Press

worth visiting. But it's more than a problem for rich people.

"Not to be able to get an ambulance or to not be able to get my groceries is a rich people problem?" said Matthew Bedell, another resident of Sintra, which has no pharmacy or grocery store in the center of the UNESCO-designated district. "Those don't feel like rich people problems to me."

Overtourism generally describes the tipping point at which visitors and their cash stop benefitting residents and instead cause harm by degrading historic sites, overwhelming infrastructure and making life markedly more difficult for those who live there. Look a little deeper and you'll find knottier issues for locals and their leaders, none more universal than housing prices driven up by short-term rentals like Airbnb, from Spain to South Africa.

The summer of 2023 was defined by the chaos of the journey itself airports and airlines overwhelmed,

passports a nightmare for travelers from the US. Yet by the end of the year, signs abounded that the COVID-19 rush of revenge travel was accelerating.

In January, the United Nations' tourism agency predicted that worldwide tourism would exceed the records set in 2019 by 2%. By the end of March, the agency reported, more than 285 million tourists had travelled internationally, about 20% more than the first quarter of 2023. The World Travel & Tourism Council projected in April that 142 of 185 countries it analyzed would set records for tourism, set to generate \$11.1 trillion globally and account for 330 million jobs. Aside from the money, there's been trouble in paradise this year, with Spain playing a starring role in everything from water management problems to skyrocketing housing prices and drunken tourist drama. Protests erupted across the country as early as March, with thousands of people demonstrating in Spain's Canary Islands against visitors and construction that was overwhelming water services and jacking up housing prices.

Japan set records for tourist arrivals. In Fujikawagu-

chiko, a town that offers some of the best views of Mount Fuji, leaders erected a large black screen in a parking lot to deter tourists from overcrowding the site. The tourists apparently struck back by cutting holes in the screen at eye level.

Air travel, meanwhile, only got more miserable, the U.S. government reported in July.

Tourism is surging and shifting so quickly, in fact, that some experts say the very term "overtourism" is outdated.

Michael O'Regan, a lecturer on tourism and events at Glasgow Caledonian University, argues that "overtourism" doesn't reflect the fact that the experience depends largely on the success or failure of crowd management.

"There's been backlash against the business models on which modern tourism has been built and the lack of response by politicians," he said in an interview.

Tourism "came back quicker than we expected," he allows, but tourists aren't the problem. "So what happens when we get too many tourists? Destinations need to do more research." Virpi Makela can describe

exactly what happens in her corner of Sintra. Incoming guests at Casa do Valle, her hillside bed-and-breakfast near the village center, call Makela in anguish because they cannot figure out how to find her property amid Sintra's "disorganized" traffic rules that seem to change without notice.

"There's a pillar in the middle of the road that goes up and down and you can't go forward because you ruin your car. So you have to somehow come down but you can't turn around, so you have to back down the road," says Makela, a resident of Portugal for 36 years.

"And then people get so frustrated they come to our road, which also has a sign that says 'authorized vehicles only.' And they block everything."

A 40-minute train ride to the west, Sintra's municipality has invested in more parking lots outside town and youth housing at lower prices near the center, the mayor's office said.

More than 3 million people every year visit the mountains and castles of Sintra, long one of Portugal's wealthiest regions for its cool microclimate and scenery.

Sintra City Hall also said via email that fewer tickets are now sold to the nearby historic sites. Pena Palace, for example, began this year to permit less than half the 12,000 tickets per day sold there in the past.

It's not enough, say local residents, who have organized into QSintra, an association that's challenging City Hall to "put residents first" with better communication, to start.

They also want to know the government's plan for managing guests at a new hotel being constructed to increase the number of overnight stays, and more limits on the number of cars and visitors allowed.

"We're not against tourists," reads the group's manifesto. "We're against the pandemonium that (local leaders) cannot resolve." □

Tyler Reddick wins rain-delayed NASCAR Cup race at Michigan, his 2nd victory of 2024

By **LARRY LAGE**
AP Sports Writer

BROOKLYN, Mich. (AP) — Tyler Reddick capped an emotional week with his second NASCAR Cup Series win this year.

Reddick's mentor, Scott Bloomquist, died in a plane crash just three days before he won at Michigan International Speedway on Monday.

"I can't help but sit here in victory lane and think of Scott Bloomquist," he said. "Huge mentor to me, and an incredible role model and legend of dirt racing and motor sports."

"The last couple of days have been tough. This really helps it. This win should go for him, his family and friends."

Reddick moved past Kyle Larson into the top spot in the Cup standings, and his win opened another spot in the playoffs because he was one of 12 drivers who had already earned an automatic bid with a victory. That leaves four spots available with races remaining at Daytona and Darlington. Reddick also won at Talladega four months ago in his No. 45 Toyota for 23XI, the team owned by Denny Hamlin and Michael Jordan.



Tyler Reddick stands on his car after winning a NASCAR Cup Series auto race at Michigan International Speedway, Monday, Aug. 19, 2024, in Brooklyn, Mich.

The Basketball Hall of Famer and former Charlotte Hornets owner was at Michigan on Sunday, when the race was stopped after 51 laps because of rain.

"This is a fun hobby for him, fun business for him," said Hamlin, who was on the pole in his No. 11 Toyota and finished ninth. "This fills a lot of gaps of the competitiveness that he has lost by not being part of the Hornets anymore."

Martin Truex Jr. got loose

in the No. 19 Toyota on lap 194, bringing out the yellow flag and a restart with six laps to go.

Reddick was out front on the first restart and the race went to a second overtime when Ross Chastain was running 11th and was part of a crash that brought out another yellow.

William Byron led the second restart but Reddick passed him for the 26th lead change of the race. Byron was second in the

No. 24 Chevy and Ty Gibbs was third in the No. 54 Toyota, improving his chances of making the playoffs even if he doesn't win one of the next two races.

Larson, who was the BetMGM Sportsbook favorite to win the race, lost control of the No. 5 Chevrolet on lap 115 and several cars were tangled up in the mess.

A few laps later, Joey Logano took his damaged No. 22 Ford to the garage

and Bubba Wallace's No. 23 Toyota took a hit to stunt the relative success the on-the-bubble driver was having in the race.

The pileup led to Logano finishing 33rd, with Larson one spot behind and Wallace 26th, pushing him from No. 15 to 17 in the playoff standings for the 16-car field.

Austin Dillon was 17th, a week after he wrecked Logano and Hamlin on the final lap to win at Richmond and had his automatic spot in the playoffs revoked by NASCAR. Dillon's appeal is scheduled for Wednesday. Kyle Busch won the second stage, the first for him and Richard Childress Racing this season. Busch became the 19th driver to win a stage in 2024, setting a single-season record, and became the sixth to win a stage in every year since NASCAR added the wrinkle in 2017.

Busch finished fourth.

"This is how we would expect to run," he said. "This is how we want to run."

Scary sight

Corey LaJoie, driving the No. 7 Chevrolet, went airborne after some contact and slid a considerable distance on the hood before rolling over on grass. □

Dolphins' Tagovailoa says McDaniel built him up after Flores tore him down as young NFL quarterback

MIAMI GARDENS, Fla. (AP)

— Tua Tagovailoa left no doubt he likes playing for Mike McDaniel a lot more than he did Brian Flores.

Fresh off signing a four-year contract extension last month, Tagovailoa said he appreciates McDaniel's positive coaching style after dealing with Flores' negativity during his first two seasons in the NFL.

"To put it in simplest terms, if you woke up every morning and I told you you suck at what you did, that you don't belong doing what you do, that you shouldn't be here, that this guy should be here, that you haven't earned this right. ...

And then you have somebody else come in and tell you, 'Dude, you are the best fit for us, you are accurate, you are the best.' How would it make you feel listening to one or the other?" Tagovailoa said in an interview that aired Monday on "The Dan LeBatard Show".

Tagovailoa said the criticism beat him down to the point that he began to believe it. He was the No. 5 overall draft pick in 2020 and won the starting job, but he was pulled twice in the fourth quarter of games for Ryan Fitzpatrick.

The following season Tagovailoa's future with the Dol-

phins was in doubt amid speculation they were seeking a trade for Deshaun Watson.

"I don't care who you are. You can be the President of the United States. You have a terrible person that's telling you things that you don't want to hear or that you probably shouldn't ever hear, you're going to start to believe that about yourself. And so that's sort of like what ended up happening," Tagovailoa said.

The Dolphins fired Flores and replaced him with McDaniel for the 2022 season. Tagovailoa said it has taken two years to train the negative thoughts out of his

head. With McDaniel devising schemes to suit Tagovailoa's skills, the Dolphins

averaged an NFL-leading 401 yards per game last season. □



Miami Dolphins quarterback Tua Tagovailoa (1) throws during the first half of a preseason NFL football game against the Washington Commanders, Saturday, Aug. 17, 2024, in Miami Gardens, Fla.

Associated Press

Brewers overcoming all sorts of adversity to build biggest division lead of any MLB team

By **STEVE MEGARGEE**

AP Sports Writer

MILWAUKEE (AP) — This was expected to be the season the Milwaukee Brewers finally took a step back after making five playoff appearances over the last six years in Major League Baseball's smallest market.

It hasn't happened.

After losing manager Craig Counsell to the rival Chicago Cubs and trading 2021 Cy Young Award winner Corbin Burnes to the Baltimore Orioles, the Brewers have withstood numerous injuries to build the largest division lead of any team.

Milwaukee has won five straight and leads the NL Central by 11 games over the St. Louis Cardinals, who host the Brewers in a three-game series beginning Tuesday. Manager Pat Murphy says the Brewers are still "in the middle of a fight."

"If you go back to your corner and look over and look at the scorecard, that doesn't help you, you know what I mean?" Murphy said. "Go to the corner and put your head down. You know what's going on. You know if you're taking on water, pressure or whatever. You know the situation. You don't need to look over your shoulder and wonder, 'How many games?'"

"You just need to stay the course. You need to stay



Milwaukee Brewers' Devin Williams, right, gets doused with liquid by Willy Adames after a baseball game against the Cincinnati Reds, Saturday, Aug. 10, 2024, in Milwaukee.

in the ring, get some water, wait for the bell, go out there and try to win a decision every round you can." Murphy has a chance to be named manager of the year, an award no Brewers skipper has won. Murphy was an interim manager for the San Diego Padres in 2015, but this is his first full season managing.

Murphy had been the bench coach on Counsell's Milwaukee staff since 2016, so he knows these players well. He has them believing they can overcome any setback.

"We just keep responding," second baseman Brice Turang said.

"We've got good players on our team. We've just going to keep moving forward, keep being competitive and try to win every pitch, every game that we can."

The Brewers tend to outperform preseason prognostications, but they faced more hurdles than usual this year.

They played the first four months without two-time NL reliever of the year Devin Williams due to stress frac-

tures in his back. The starting rotation that had been Milwaukee's biggest strength for most of those playoff seasons was a major question.

Burnes is gone. Two-time All-Star Brandon Woodruff isn't pitching this season while recovering from shoulder surgery. Veteran left-hander Wade Miley made just two starts and rookie lefty Robert Gasser made five before both had Tommy John surgery.

Milwaukee experienced its latest setback last week, when All-Star outfielder

Christian Yelich had season-ending back surgery.

Yet the Brewers have remained "undaunted," to borrow the word Murphy uses as a team slogan. They have gone 14-9 and their division lead has more than doubled since July 23, when Yelich played his last game. "Because of guys like Yeli, they've built a culture in there that says, 'OK, let's win tonight somehow, whatever we've got to do,'" Murphy said. "If this guy's not playing or this guy's not doing this or this guy makes an error or this guy, you know, let's just keep going, let's just keep pecking away."

All-Star catcher William Contreras, shortstop Willy Adames and rapidly improving rookie outfielder Jackson Chourio lead a lineup that ranks 10th in the majors in runs, up from 17th last season.

The Brewers' 3.66 ERA ranks second in the majors, behind Seattle's 3.48. They've used 17 starting pitchers, matching the Los Angeles Dodgers for the most in the majors, according to Sportradar.

Milwaukee has gotten the second-fewest innings from its starters of any MLB team only Miami has fewer but a deep bullpen has picked up the slack. Eleven Brewers have recorded a save, second to the Dodgers' 12. □

Associated Press

Aces coach Becky Hammon again disputes Dearica Hamby's claims of mistreatment during pregnancy



Las Vegas Aces head coach Becky Hammon calls to players during the first half of a WNBA basketball game against the Washington Mystics, Thursday, July 4, 2024, in Las Vegas.

Associated Press

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Las Vegas coach Becky Hammon again disputed former Aces player Dearica Hamby's claim the Aces mistreated her and traded her because of her pregnancy.

Hamby, traded to Los Angeles in January 2023, played for the organization from 2015-22, beginning when the Aces were based in San Antonio. She earned the league Sixth Player of the Year award in 2019 and 2020 and won a bronze medal in 3X3 basketball at the Paris Olympics.

Hamby, who went public with her accusations last year, sued the WNBA and her former team in federal court last Monday alleging discrimination and retaliation.

"I've been in either the WNBA or the NBA for now 25 years," Hammon said Sunday after the Aces beat Hamby and the Sparks 87-71. "I've never had an HR complaint. Never, not once. I still didn't, actually, because Dearica didn't file any. She didn't file with the players' union, she didn't file with the WNBA. Those are facts."

"It's also factual that nobody made a call about trading her until Atlanta called us in January (2023). That's a fact. So ... it just didn't happen."

Hammon previously refuted the allegations, saying in May 2023 that Hamby was traded for strategic reasons, namely putting the club in position to sign likely future Hall of Famer Candace Parker. □